

House sold as expert answers plea in Post

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A WOMAN who was told her property was worth almost half its asking price because of Japanese knotweed growing on adjacent land has finally sold it at close to its full value — after experts read her story in the Evening Post and came forward to successfully remove the invasive plant.

Elizabeth Wakeman was given the shock valuation of the property on Carmarthen Road, which had been home to her great aunt Elizabeth Abraham all her life.

She had been given power of attorney over the 92-year-old's affairs, after she had moved to a nursing home suffering from dementia, and Mrs Wakeman wanted to put the house on the market in order to pay for her special care and accommodation.

But she was told the presence of knotweed on land next door had slashed the value of the property from £80,000, to around £45,000.

However, after reading about her plight in the Evening Post, knotweed removal specialists Environet came



Environet managing director Nicolas Seal who successfully treated the Knotweed at a property on Carmarthen Road.

Picture: Gayle Marsh/ SWgm20150625A-015_C

forward and the sale of the house was completed this week, close to its asking price.

Mrs Wakesman said: "It is a massive relief. I'm grateful to the Evening Post for publicising our story, because without it Environet would not have

learned of the story and come forward to help.

"Unfortunately, my great aunt passed away, but we still have to pay back bills for her nursing care, and we needed to get near full market value."

Nic Seal, of Environet, added: "A lot

comes down to having been able to give a written guarantee to satisfy lenders and future owners.

"We see a lot of other treatments for knotweed which are badly done, and with no guarantee, and the value of properties can drop."